

**Amendments to the Claims:**

1. **(original)** A nail art operating method comprising the steps of:  
a fingertip fixation step for fixing the fingertip of the user on a pedestal; and  
a printing step for printing a picture or a pattern by pad printing method on a nail of said fingertip fixed at said fingertip fixation step.
  
2. **(original)** The nail art operating method according to claim 1, wherein, at said printing step, the printing is performed via plate surface selecting step for selecting the plate surface on which concave section corresponding to printed picture or pattern is formed, an ink applying step for applying ink to said plate surface selected at this plate surface selecting step, a transcribing step for transcribing said ink applied on said concave section of the plate surface on the pad as the transcription surface, and re-transcribing step for re-transcribing said ink transcribed on said pad for said nail at this transcribing step.
  
3. **(original)** The nail art operating method according to claim 2, wherein, at the printing step, different pictures or patterns with different color inks are made to print on said nails upon repeating said plate surface selecting step and said ink applying step.
  
4. **(original)** The nail art operating method according to claim 1, wherein said printing step further comprises the steps of:  
an ink jet method applying step for spurting to apply the ink to a first transcription surface according to ink jet method printing;  
a transcribing step for further transcribing the ink applied on said first transcription surface on the pad to be the second transcription surface at the ink jet method applying step; and  
a re-transcribing step for further re-transcribing the ink transcribed on the pad for said nail at this transcribing step.

5. **(original)** A nail art operating apparatus which applies an ink to a plate surface on which a concave section is formed, transcribes said ink existing on the concave section of this plate surface, and re-transcribes said ink transcribed on this pad for the nail comprising:

fingertip fixation means for fixing the fingertip of the user;

plate surface selecting means for selecting the plate surface in use from said plurality of plate surfaces;

ink applying means for applying the selected ink to the plate surface selected by said plate surface selecting means while selecting said ink introduced from a plurality of ink container for containing said ink; and

re-transcribing means for re-transcribing the ink transcribed on said pad for said nail so as to bring this pad into contact with the nail of the user's fingertip fixed on said fingertip fixation means, after transcribing the ink applied on said plate surface by said ink applying means to said pad.

6. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said plate surface selecting means further comprises:

medium mounting means capable of mounting a plurality of plate surface formation medium to be the medium on which said plate surface is formed more than one; and

medium taking out means for taking out one plate surface formation medium from among said plate surface formation medium mounted on said medium mounting means,

wherein said ink applying means apply the selected ink introduced from said ink container to the plate surface on said plate surface formation medium taken out by said medium taking out means.

7. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 6, wherein when said medium taking out means takes out said plate surface formation medium on which a plurality of said plate surfaces are formed, the printing for said nail is made to perform repeatedly while

changing the plate surface used for the printing as needed depending on the taken out plate surface formation medium.

8. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 6, wherein said plate surface formation medium including part to be of magnetic metal is shifted from said medium mounting means to a table for placing said plate surface formation medium by said medium taking out means, then part to be of said magnetic metal is attracted to be fixed by magnetic line of electromagnet on this table.

9. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 6, wherein the dropping ink due to said ink applying means to said plate surface formation medium fixed on said table is applied by a squeegee.

10. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 6, wherein common shifting means cause said medium taking out means and said re-transcribing means to shift.

11. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the ink nozzle arrangement position shifts between the ink application position and the rest position on said table because said ink applying means rotates with its rotational axis section to become a fulcrum as the center.

12. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 6, further comprising plate surface cleaning means for cleaning said plate surface formation medium after use.

13. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 12, wherein said plate surface cleaning means and the rotational axis section of said ink applying means occupy identical position reciprocally against said table in use.

14. **(original)** A nail art operating apparatus which transcribes an ink applied by an ink jet method printing to a pad, and re-transcribes said ink transcribed to this pad to a nail comprising:

fingertip fixation means for fixing the fingertip of the user;

ink jet method printing means for spurting to apply the ink to a first transcription surface depending on the ink jet method printing; and

re-transcribing means for re-transcribing the ink transcribed to said pad for said nail so as to bring this pad into contact with the nail of the fingertip of the user fixed on said fingertip fixation means, after transcribing the ink applied on said first transcription surface by this ink jet method printing means to said pad to be the second transcription surface.

15. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 14, further comprising: control means for controlling the apparatus; and storage means for storing a plurality of art pattern data and color data,

wherein said control means specify the printing to said ink jet method printing means based on said art pattern data and color data stored in said storage means.

16. **(currently amended)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 14 ~~or 15~~, further comprising:

specification input means for specifying selection of said art pattern data and color data; and

display means for displaying a printed result pattern based on said art pattern data and color data selected by this specification input means.

17. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said first transcription surface is a role paper with moisture-absorption characteristic and said second transcription surface is the pad.

18. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 14, wherein said first transcription surface is of material with no capillarity, and said second transcription surface is the pad.

19. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein said fingertip fixation means is provided with nail position specification means for determining the position of the nail of said user.

20. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 5, further comprising cleaning means for cleaning said pad.

21. **(original)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 5, wherein there is provided accounting operation means causing the apparatus to operate in answer to receiving of coins or paper money or so forth.

22. **(new)** The nail art operating apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising:  
specification input means for specifying selection of said art pattern data and color data;  
and

display means for displaying a printed result pattern based on said art pattern data and color data selected by this specification input means.